



**AFRL-RZ-WP-TP-2009-2174**

**VISION & NEEDS FOR DISTRIBUTED CONTROLS:  
CUSTOMERS FOR CONTROL SYSTEMS AND WHAT DO  
THEY VALUE (POSTPRINT)**

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**AUGUST 2009**

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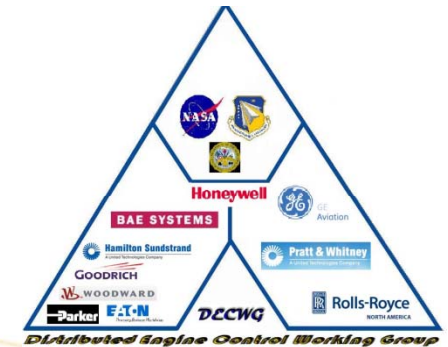
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AIR FORCE MATERIEL COMMAND  
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## Vision & Needs for Distributed Controls: Customers for Control Systems and What Do They Value

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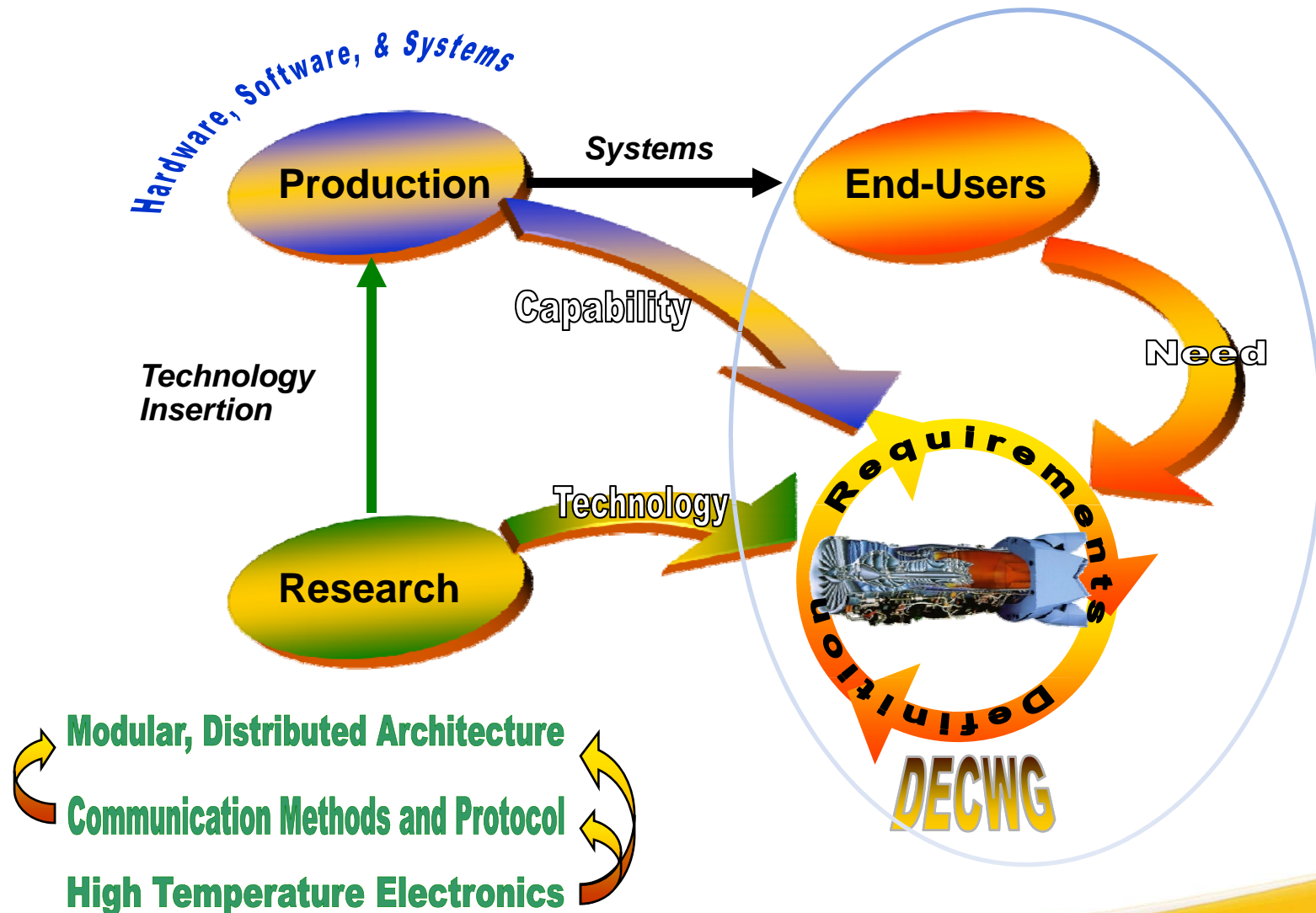
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*Distributed Engine Control Working Group*



# The Process for Distributed Controls



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# Objective: Modular, Open, Distributed Engine Control

## Technology Benefits

### ➔ Increased Performance

- Reduction in engine weight due to digital signaling, lower wire/connector count, reduced cooling need
- 5% increase in thrust-to-weight ratio

### ➔ Improved Mission Success

- System availability improvement due to automated fault isolation, reduced maintenance time, modular LRU
- 10% increase in system availability

### ➔ Lower Life Cycle Cost

- Reduced cycle time for design, manufacture, V&V
- Reduced component and maintenance costs via cross-platform commonality, obsolescence mitigation
- Flexible upgrade path through open interface standards

## Capability Needs

### ➔ Open Systems Development, Modeling & Design

- Future systems requirements definition
- Open industry interface standards definition
- System modeling tools development
- Modular system integration and test techniques

### ➔ Hardware Systems Development

- High temperature integrated circuits and systems development
- Improved electronic component availability

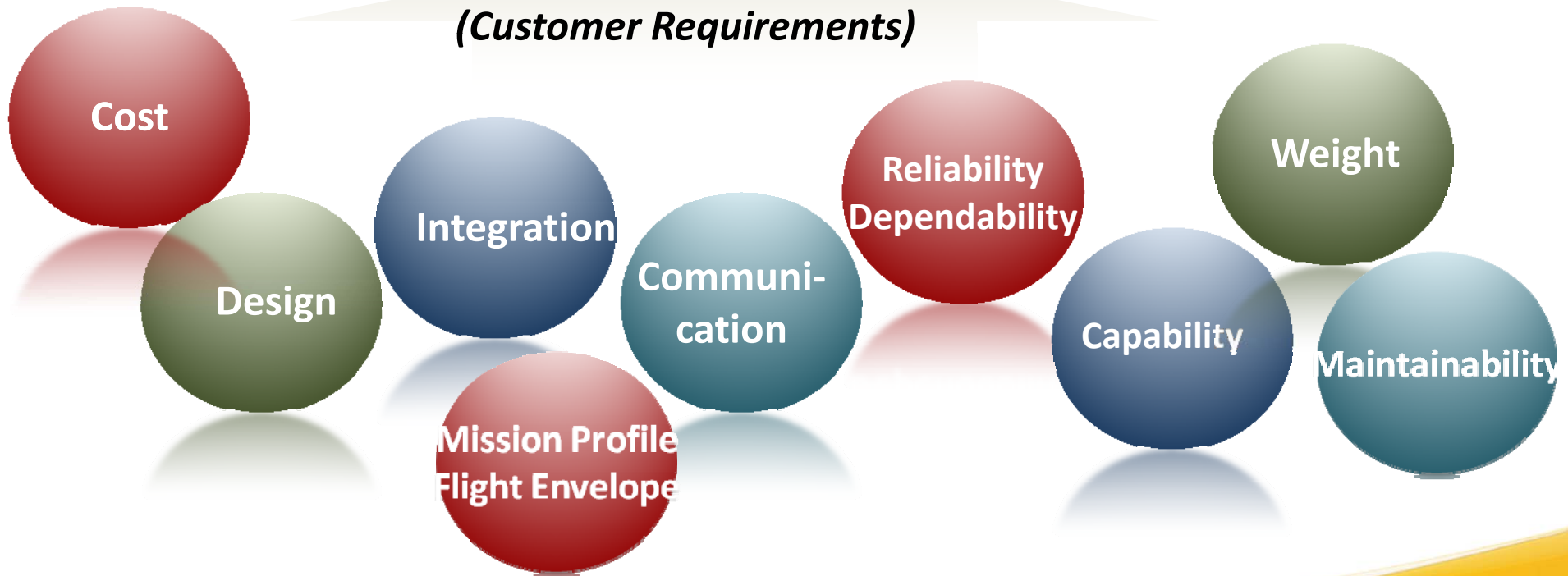
### ➔ Software Systems Development

- Software system partitioning
- Software design and modular test capability
- Software distributed system V&V

# Engine Manufacturer

There is a need for improved control devices that are compatible with the control electronics made by different manufactures. In addition there is a need for specific purpose control devices of one manufacturer to be compatible with more general-purpose control electronics from a different manufacturer.

adapt the system to your *needs*  
(*Customer Requirements*)





# Airframe Manufacturer

## Mission Requirements, Vehicle Requirements , Customer /OEM Requirements

There is a need for control integration between engine , TMS, power, and the aircraft.  
An iterative process to meet all requirements including customer and engine requirements  
An integration Process with Interactive Approach,,,

Adapt the system to your  
customer's and OEM's *needs*



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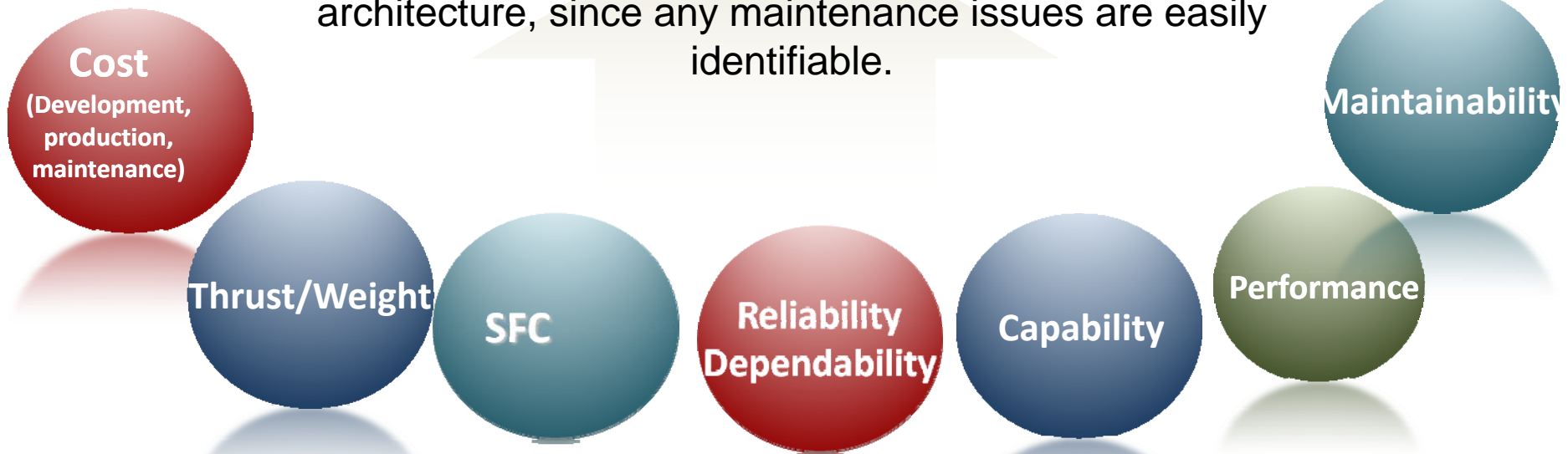
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# Aircraft/Engine Owner

There is a need for improved autonomous control devices that are compatible with the control electronics made by different manufactures. The big issue is the cost and obsolescence  
The A/C , engine owner s need to have the minimum cost of maintaining their asset

Adapt the system to your *needs at lowest cost*

Performing maintenance and repair on the flight line or in the depot will have reduced cost for a distributed control architecture, since any maintenance issues are easily identifiable.



A set of user interfaces needs to be developed to allow a single user to efficiently control the fleet of aircraft. Their impact and benefit derive from the convergence of new DEC architectures

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## Comparison:

Commercial

VS.

Military

- GE & P&W each build 500-1000 Jet engines annually and build replacement parts for 17000 engines
- Distributed control design will increase COTS, reduce inventories, and reduce cycle time for design, manufacture, V&V, and cost
- Military engines push the SOA technologies
- To maintain adequate military capabilities in the years ahead, the US will have to design, develop, and produce defense systems with the needed performance at more affordable costs
- Embedded military S/W for controls must handle enormously complicated integration tasks. DEC solution offers common S/W & H/W for both military & commercial engines
- To extend or change control system capability to handle complicated tasks, designers must modify the H/W, S/W, and improve fault tolerance and fail-safe operation
- S/W can implement functions that would be extraordinarily time-consuming & costly in H/W alone

## Comparison:

Large Engine

VS.

Small Engine

- Large engines and small engine classes have unique S/W H/W requirements
- The current commercial airline and military “bear market” is leading the “Big Four” to engage on more partnership and collaboration with each other and with small engine manufacturers
- The current military aircraft UAV procurement means more new development for the small turbine engine
- For the next several years, strengths in the turbine engines sector are expected to continue to come from increased military fighter aircraft and UAVs
- A DEC is the methodology to improve engine performance & cost
- In addition to manufacturer collaboration and R&D programs, several important market factors present challenges that are stimulating significant improvements in engine technology

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## Transition:

Commercial

VS.

Military

### Commercial to Military

- Military demand is growing for FADEC & control systems with expert system embedded in the S/W for fault tolerance
- Civilian demand has spurred rapid technological progress for commercial aircrafts
- Escalating procurement and fuel costs will stimulate the DoD to leverage commercial FADECs & control systems S/W & H/W.
- Modular / Universal/Distributed design can reduce development time and cost. S/W could offer baseline for military-qualified FADECs.
- To promote dual use, the services must recognize the similarities between commercial applications & military needs; too often, they focus on the differences

### Military to Commercial

- Avionics has been the chief success story in transferring military S/W and hardware to civil sector. Through VAATE, and SBIR funding a lot of technologies has been transferred to commercial avionics.
- Modeling & real-time SIMULATION can reduce integration cost for both commercial and military engine controls
- Technology transfer also occurs when on diverse programs from both commercial & military programs



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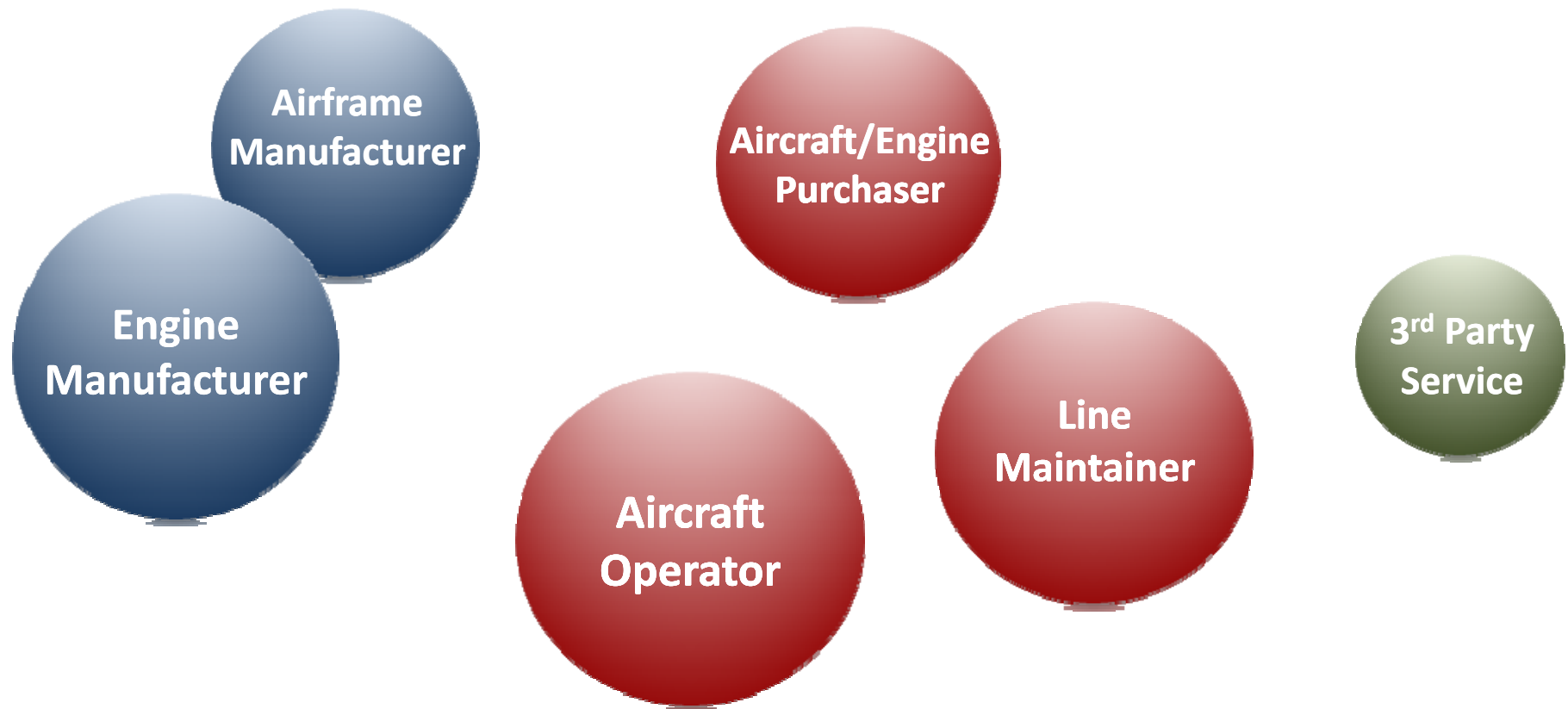


# BACKUP CHARTS

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# Who Is The Customer For Controls?



What Control Attributes Do Customers Value?

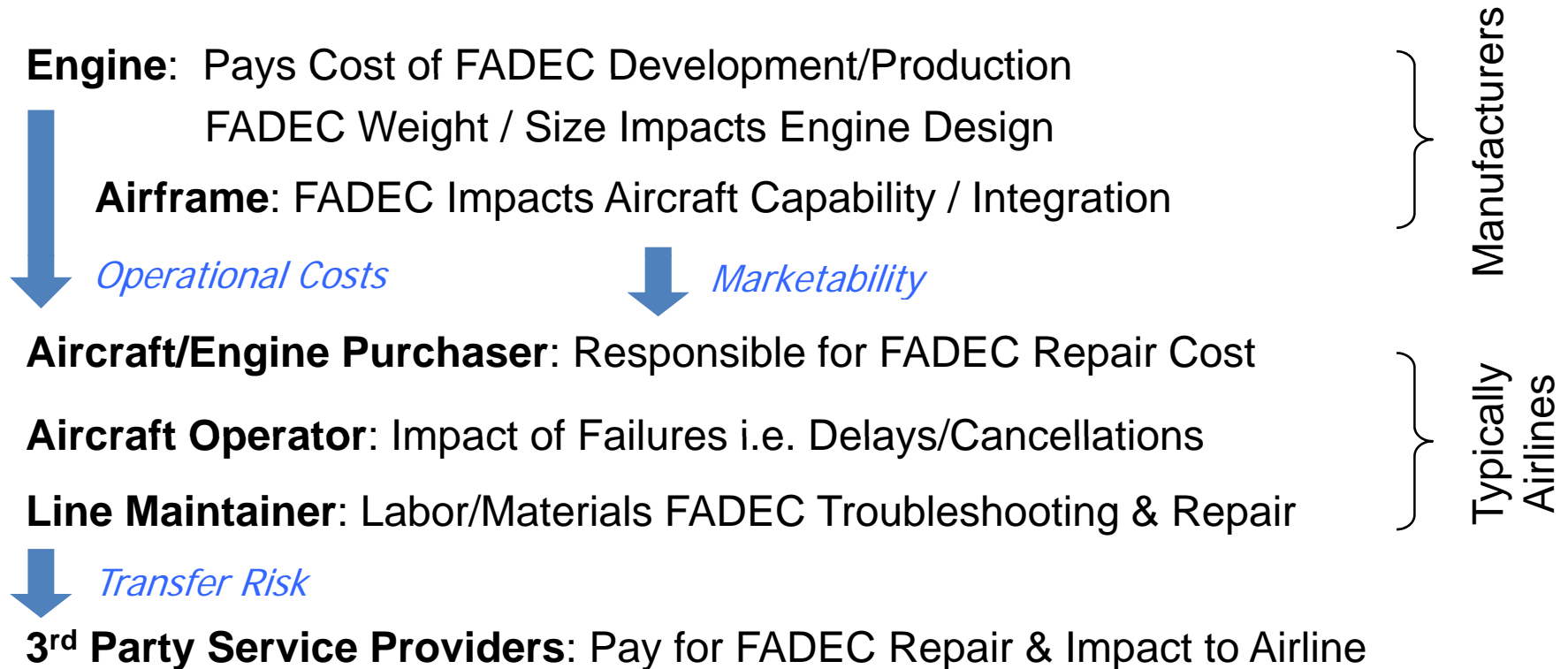
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# What Does “The Customer” Value?





# Weighting of Values Vary By Engine Application

**Purchase Cost / Weight** Increasingly Valued As Engine Size Decreases

*Control System As Percentage of Total Engine Weight/Cost*

**Engine Manufacturer Values** Often Transfer to Military Customers

*DoD Owns Engine Design – Often Responsible for Development / Production Costs*

**Reliability** Even More Critical for Smaller Airline Fleets

*Fewer Aircraft Means Fewer Options When One is Down for Maintenance*

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# How Can FADEC Impact Customer Value?

Reduce Overall Control System Weight

*Consider Electronics, Power Supplies, Housings, Connectors, Harnesses, etc.*

Enable Reuse and Upgradability of FADEC Components

*Provide Headstart on FADEC For New Applications*

Improved Control System Component Reliability

*Robustness Against Steady and Cyclical Temperature and Vibrational Effects*

Easier Control System Troubleshooting and Repair

*Reduced Training and Labor Hours via Automation*

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